

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABU DH 00636 011303Z
ACTION NEA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5703
INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 0636

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIN, EGEN, TC
SUBJ: TWO POLICY QUESTIONS RELATED TO TAXES

SUMMARY: RECENT VISIT TEHRAN IRS REPRESENTATIVE RAISED TWO
POLICY QUESTIONS WHICH SUBMITTED FOR DEPARTMENT INFO/
GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING FEB 19-22 VISIT TO THE UAE TO PROVIDE TAXPAYER
ASSISTANCE, TEHRAN IRS REP MARYLYN DEARSMAN ASKED POST TO
PROVIDE HER WITH AUTHENTICATION CONCERNING OFFICIAL POSITIONS
OF MAHDI TAJIR (PRESENT UAE AMBASSADOR TO UK AND FRANCE) IN
1972-76 PERIOD. THIS CERTIFICATE WOULD, WE UNDERSTAND, BE
AVAILABLE FOR USE IN EVIDENCE DURING POSSIBLE JUDICIAL PRO-
CEEDINGS CONCERNING ALLEGED BRIBERY OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS BY US PERSONS OR FIRMS.

2. AMBASSADOR OBSERVED TO MISS DEARSMAN THAT WHILE HAPPY TO
COOPERATE WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, REQUEST SHOULD MORE
APPROPRIATELY ISSUE FROM STATE DEPARTMENT TO EMBASSY. HE
SUGGESTED THAT IRS CONTACT DEPARTMENT. AS FOR SUBSTANCE OF
REQUEST, TAJIR IS MULTI-TALENTED INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS SERVED
GOVERNMENT (AND HIS OWN INTERESTS) IN VARIETY OF CAPACITIES.
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EMBASSY'S EFFORTS TO OBTAIN COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF DUBAI EMIRATE
AND UAE POSITIONS HELD BY TAJIR WOULD BE LIKELY TO BECOME KNOWN
TO HIM. POTENTIAL FOR FUTURE EMBARRASSMENT IS CONSIDERABLE.

3. ON OTHER MATTER, MISS DEARSMAN WAS ALSO INTERESTED IN POST'S
ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING EVIDENCE TO BEGIN INVESTIGATION OF
POSSIBLE INCOME TAX EVASION BY AMERICAN CITIZEN BUSINESSMAN

WHOM DEA TEHRAN BELIEVES TO BE A NARCOTICS TRAFFICKER.

4. IN PREVIOUS CONVERSATIONS WITH DEA TEHRAN CHIEF JACK GREENE, BUDAI OIC SUGGESTED DEA COORDINATE INVESTIGATION WITH IRS SINCE AMERICAN CITIZEN IN QUESTION ALLEGED, BY GENERALLY RELIABLE SOURCES, TO HAVE SOLD LARGE SHARE OF HIS MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR BUSINESS WITHOUT PAYING TAXES DUE.

5. DUBAI OFFICE FINANCIAL SOURCE (ACTING, WE BELIEVE, FROM HIGHEST MOTIVES) MAY BE WILLING TO PROVIDE ALLEGED SUSTANTIVE DOCUMENTATION IN EXTREME CONFIFENCE. HOWEVER, HE FEARS TERMINAL PERSONAL HARM AND/OR PROFESSIONAL SANCTION IF EXISTENCE OF DOCUMENTS BECOME KNOWN SINCE HIS PRIVILEGED ACCESS WOULD IDENTIFY HIM AS LIKELY SOURCE.

6. MISS DEARSMAN TOLD DUBAI OIC THAT, WITH DOCUMENTS BEING USED TO ESTABLISH SUFFICIENT CAUSE TO START AN INVESTIGATION, CONFIDENTIALITY ABOUT THEIR EXISTENCE CANNOT BE GUARANTEED IN PRE-TRIAL DISCOVERY PROCEDURES. EMBASSY PREPARED SEEK DOCUMENTS WITH THIS CAUTION BUT AS INDICATED BELIEVES CHANCES OF SUCCESS ARE SLIM. ALTERNATIVELY WE CAN ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS PROVIDE FACTS AS WE UNDERSTAND THEM, BUT IRS WILL HAVE TO DIG UP SUPPORTING EVIDENCE FOR COURT USE FROM OTHER SOURCES.
DICKMAN

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